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Traffic violations on Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway

Police launch system to rectify wrong penalties

- Verification of every violation and penalty notice impossible due to manpower shortage, says ADGP Sharath Chandra
- Complaints can be addressed to *adgpcts@bgl.vsnl.net.in*

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (AG&BCT)- On the Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway-275, complaints about wrong penalties are on the rise, with AI-powered cameras inaccurately detecting violations such as not wearing seatbelts, misidentifying vehicles and issuing overspeeding fines even when vehicles were within speed limits. This has led to drivers being penalised despite following traffic rules. In response, K.V. Sharath Chandra, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) and Commissioner of Traffic and Road Safety stated that a system has been established for affected drivers to contest incorrect notices.

(See POLICE on page 6)

Camera issues persist without clear cause

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (AG&BCT)- Tecsidel ITS, a Gurgaon-based firm, has installed 24 Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Cameras along the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway at three locations, with eight cameras at each spot.

In addition, Police Department has collaborated with other companies to install multiple cameras. Some cameras are directly installed by the Police Department, which claims they function similarly to ANPR cameras. However, glitches persist and reasons remain unclear.

Akash Sinha, CEO of Tecsidel ITS, told *Star of Mysore* that when a camera captures a traffic violation, the footage is sent to the back-end, where staff manually verify violation before forwarding it to the Police Department.

Under the agreement between Tecsidel, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and the Police, the Police must verify the violation and file a case before a notice is sent to the violator. However, ADGP Sharath Chandra revealed that due to lack of manpower, this verification process is not being conducted, except for violations in Bengaluru city.

As a result, violations captured by ANPR cameras are not verified and penalty notices are automatically sent to vehicle owners identified through number plates. There are over 60 cameras on Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway, including 24 installed by Tecsidel.

(See CAMERA on page 6)

Governor returns Mysuru Development Authority Bill

Thaawarchand Gehlot cites ongoing probes, pending Court cases in MUDA controversy

Thaawarchand

Bengaluru, Feb. 23 (BCT)- The State Government's plan to revamp and re-brand Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) as the Mysuru Development Authority (MDA), modelled after the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) Act, has hit a roadblock as Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot returned the Mysuru Development Authority Bill, 2024.

The Bill, aimed at ensuring coordinated planning and streamlined implementation of schemes by the proposed MDA and State and Central Governments, was passed by the Legislative Assembly through a voice vote on Dec. 18, 2024 and sent to the Governor for assent.

Governor's observations: The Governor cited the timing of the Bill as a key concern, noting that it was introduced amid ongoing investigations into alleged irregularities in MUDA.

A One-Man Judicial Commission of inquiry, probes by Enforcement Directorate and an investigation by the Karnataka Lokayukta are currently underway. Additionally, several related cases are pending in various Courts, the Governor observed.

"In this scenario, it is not advisable to create a new entity in place of an existing one. It would be better to enact this legislation after the conclusion of these inquiries," the Governor stated in his note, suggesting that a law should be drafted only after all investigations are completed. He has also directed that the file be resubmitted with clarifications on these aspects.

(See GOVERNOR on page 6)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 23rd February 2025

District Rotaract Representative of Rotary International District 3181

Rtr. Rtn. Prajwal

Mysuru, Feb. 23- Rtr. Rtn. R. Prajwal, a Member of Rotary Mysore & Rotaract Mysore, has been unanimously elected as the District Rotaract Representative of Rotary International District 3181 for the year 2025-2026.

With over a decade of experience in the Rotaract Movement, he had identified himself in the field of Community Service.

While studying for Graduation at NIE First Grade College, Mysuru, he joined the Rotaract Movement in 2016. After his Graduation from an institution-based Club, he joined Rotaract Mysore, a 50-year-old Rotaract Club that Rotary Mysore sponsored, in 2019.

He served at various positions at the Club and District-level, including as the District Editor, the District Sergeant-At-Arms, the District PR & Branding Chairman and the Zonal Leader.

He served as the 52nd President of Rotaract Mysore in 2023-2024. He became the first person in Rotaract 3181 to join the Rotary Club while serving as President of Rotaract Club.

Currently, he is serving as the Zonal Rotaract Representative of the Chamundi Zone.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

KEEP YOUR ELDERS CHEERFUL: ***My father is 86 years old and in relatively good health. He is independent and extremely Internet savvy. But he often falls sick — ordinary ailments that accompany old age. But he has his share of worries and regrets that plunge him into depression. This affects the speed of recovery. Almost 80% of all his sickness in psychosomatic.***

For some time now, I have been wondering how to keep him cheerful and healthy at the same time. Because he does not stir out of the house unless it is a visit to the doctor's. He is not to be blamed for the gloominess that sets in when one does not get enough sunshine.

So, what is a sufficient substitute for uplifting the mood of our elderly? Such that they stay healthy and smiling?

Social media works for me. What is your hack? I introduced my father to Instagram and tutored him to use the app. He was happy. He gets to watch funny reels and learn a lot about the world rapidly changing around him. He is like a toddler who has taken to a new toy. His mood changed for the better within minutes of learning to meddle with the app.

The second hack is to invite people home who your elderly were close to, in their heyday. This gives them an opportunity to swap youthful war stories. Colleagues, best friends, cousins and those kind of people who still share that generation's worldview despite disruptions. One of these meetings is worth more than a month of medication compliance. Trust me you. A birthday party with such 'soul mates' can do wonders to their health.

The final hack. After having shown them the crazy world they are in today on social media, take them back to 'their day' with movies and music — nostalgia. My dad wanted to hear his favourite (legendary) singer K.L. Saigal. I played the whole album for him and his fever came down instantly. He was amazed by modern technology serving him his favourite songs using Google voice assistant. He never imagined that a tiny device in the family room would take him back that far in his life.

Whatever you do or don't, make certain that your elderly eat the food of their choice and enjoy it. Favourite food is 'non-negotiable.'

Lofty and expensive goodbyes to our elderly serve them no purpose. Simply because they are dead and no longer care. Why not take care of ageing parents and parent-like people while they are alive? Why perform ostentatious rituals after their exit? Food for thought, isn't it?

—Sridhar Prasad Sachidananda in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

"Digital photo snan" service at Maha Kumbh

Prayagraj: As the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 witnesses millions of devotees taking a holy dip at the Triveni Sangam, an unusual service has emerged for those unable to attend in person. In a video going viral online, a man is offering a "digital photo snan" (holy dip) service, wherein he collects photographs sent via WhatsApp and immerses them in the sacred waters on behalf of devotees. For a fee of Rs 1,100, the man claims to purify the souls of the remote devotees by immersing a photocopy of their picture in the sacred waters.

In the video, the man identifies himself as Deepak Goyal and reveals that he is based in Prayagraj, explaining his business, telling people to send their photos on WhatsApp, the printouts of which will then be dipped in the holy water within 24 hours of the transaction.

Flying car takes flight for the first time

New York: A futuristic vehicle, touted as the antidote to serpentine traffic jams, has taken its first flight. Alef Aeronautics' Rs 2.5 crore ($3,00,000) vehicle can be driven like a normal car in the streets but it also has propellers in the bonnet and the boot that allows it to take off at any time. The US-based automaker released the first video of the vehicle soaring into the sky, which appears to be straight out of a sci-fi movie.

Using distributed electric propulsion, with a mesh layer covering the propeller blades, the car was able to soar above the ground. As per a report, the company used a prototype for the trial which was an ultralight version of the Alef Model Zero.

As the video of the car taking off and going over another vehicle went viral, a section of social media users reacted in amusement while others questioned if the venture was commercially viable.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Myth: PCOS can be cured

Reality: Polycystic ovarian syndrome can be controlled by diet and exercise and medications.

By Dr. Shaheen Akhtar - Consultant – Obstetrics & Gynaecology - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Intl. Epilepsy Day observed

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (KS) - International Epilepsy Day was observed at a function organised in association with Mysore Medical College & Research Centre, Princess Krishnajammanni Super Speciality Hospital and Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (KABHI), Brain Health Clinic of Mysuru District Hospital, in city on Feb. 20.

The event aimed to raise awareness about epilepsy, bringing together a team of distinguished medical professionals, including Dr. Mohan G. Kakola, Nodal Officer and Head of the Plastic Surgery Department, Dr. K. Suresh, Neurologist, Dr. B.M. Shashi Kumar, Senior Specialist and RMO and Dr. B.M. Ravi Kumar, Medical Officer at the Brain Health Clinic. Specialists Bibi Fathima - Clinical Psychologist, Erafana - Audiologist and Speech Language Pathologist and S.K. Chithra - Physiotherapist contributed their expertise.

The session emphasised on the importance of early diagnosis, treatment and the collaborative efforts needed to support individuals living with epilepsy.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **114.53 feet**	Today's level **2,275.76 feet**	Today's level **2,836.99 feet**
Last year's level **90.63 feet**	Last year's level **2,270.55 feet**	Last year's level **2,831.05 feet**
Yesterday's level **115.00 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,275.89 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,837.00 feet**
Today's Inflow **229 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **58 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **118 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **3,825 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **800 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *Chimpanzees have a prolonged childhood, staying close to their mothers for about 7 years. During this time, they learn essential life skills, such as foraging for food, building nests and socialising within the community.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

There was a long queue in front of a Ration Shop. One person was frantically trying to come near the shop, but he was pushed to the back. When he was pushed for the 3rd time, he lost his temper and shouted: If you push me once more, I will not open the shop today!!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 86.65
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 109.43
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.58
1 Euro	= Rs. 90.58

VOICE OF THE READER

Illegal ad boards, posters bound to mar city beauty

Sir,

Apropos the news item ***'Illegal ad boards, posters to attract MCC action'*** (*SOM* dated Feb. 17). It highlights the repetitive and largely ineffective measures taken by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC).

Back in 2002, when N. Jayaram served as the MCC Commissioner and Kumar as the Assistant Commissioner, a special team was formed to crack down on illegal boards and posters. However, despite an initial burst of enthusiasm, the campaign lost momentum due to political interference.

Since then, every succeeding MCC Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner has made similar promises to ban illegal boards and posters, but the outcome has been the same — only temporary removals.

As long as political interference persists, illegal boards and posters will continue to mar the beauty of our city.

—K. Chandrahas

Mysuru
18.2.2025

220 Home Guards' vacancies

Mysuru, Feb. 23- The Office of the District Commandant, Home Guards, Fire and Emergency Services Department in Saraswathipuram, Mysuru, has invited applications from physically fit volunteers to fill 220 vacant Home Guard posts in its units across Mysuru, Nanjangud, Dodda Kavalande, T. Narasipur, H.D. Kote, Handpost, Saragur, K.R. Nagar, Hunsur, and Periyapatna.

Eligible candidates must be citizens of Mysuru, aged between 19 and 50 years, and should have passed SSLC. They must also provide authenticated documents related to their address, educational qualifications, and age (SSLC marks card or Transfer Certificate - TC).

For details, candidates can visit District Commandant's Office at Home Guards, Saraswathipuram, Mysuru-570009 (opposite JSS Women's College), or contact them at Phone No. 0821-2542877 during office hours.

The application form can be obtained free of cost from the office upon producing documents related to identity, educational qualifications, age, and residential address.

The appointment is purely based on eligibility, and the Home Guard post is voluntary, not permanent. Duty allowance will be paid according to the number of days worked, as per the rates fixed by the Government.

Applications will be distributed till Mar. 5, and the last date to submit duly filled applications is by 5.30 pm on Mar. 5. The selection process, including the interview, will be held on Mar. 7 at 10 am at the District Armed Reserve (DAR) Police Ground. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

The following documents should be attached to application: Medical certificate, Aadhaar card, SSLC marks card and TC, domicile certificate, 3 recent passport-size photos, postcard and Voter ID, PAN Card, bank passbook and ration card.

KPSC Exam: Ban orders around exam centres

Mysuru, Feb. 23- With the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) scheduled to conduct the competitive exam for appointment of 30 (Group A cadre) Assistant Executive Engineers (AEE) in Public Works Department (PWD), from Feb. 24 to 28 at eight centres across the city, the City Police have clamped prohibitory orders in 200 mts radius around all the exam centres from 6 am to 6 pm on all dates of the exam.

Accordingly, barring the examinees and the exam staff, no other unauthorised person will be allowed entry to the exam centres on exam dates.

Also, carrying of objectionable articles around the exam centres has been prohibited and all photocopy shops and browsing centres in the vicinity of the exam centres are ordered to shut down during exam hours, according to a press release issued by the Office of the city Police Commissioner.

Dr. G.R. Chandrashekar is MAHAN President

Mysuru, Feb. 23- The Annual General Body Meeting of MAHAN (Mysore Association of Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Clinics and Diagnostic Centres) was held at Mysore Sports Club recently and the following were elected as its new office-bearers:

President: Dr. G.R. Chandrashekar; Vice-Presidents: Dr. N. Vijay Cheluvaraj, Dr. B.N. Rajeeva and K.S. Gururaja; Secretary: Dr. H.R. Abhijit; Joint Secretary: Dr. R. Basavaraju and Treasurer: Dr. Rajagopal Kunnatur. The event was attended by MAHAN Founder-President Dr. Mahesh Kumar, who presided over the function and Immediate Past President Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem.

Gopala Gowda Memorial Hospital successfully conducts 3rd Space Endoscopic Procedures

Mysuru, Feb. 23- The expert medical team at Gopala Gowda Shanthaveri Memorial Hospital, Nazarbad, Mysuru, led by renowned Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist Dr. T.R. Vijay Kumar, has successfully performed advanced 3rd space endoscopic procedures, further strengthening the hospital's reputation for cutting-edge, minimally invasive treatments.

Two complex cases were treated using state-of-the-art endoscopic techniques, offering patients faster recovery and significantly reducing the need for conventional surgery.

Case 1: 57 years Male; Diagnosis: Rectal polyp with Adenocarcinoma, with Liver Cirrhosis & portal hypertension; Procedure Performed: Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD) of the rectal polyp.

Case 2: A 68 years old Female; Diagnosis: Gastric polyp; Procedure Performed: Endoscopic Mucosal Resection (EMR).

These advanced 3rd space endoscopic techniques allow for precise removal of gastrointestinal lesions without the need for major surgery. Patients benefit from minimal discomfort, shorter hospital stays and quicker recovery, making these procedures a game-changer in gastroenterology and oncology care.

Dr. Vijay Kumar, speaking on the success of these procedures, stated, "Our ability to perform such complex interventions through endoscopy highlights the technological advancements, expertise & Infrastructure at our hospital. These procedures not only improve patient outcomes but also provide a safer and less invasive alternative to traditional surgery."

With these remarkable achievements, Gopala Gowda Memorial Hospital continues to lead the way in advanced gastroenterology and minimally invasive therapeutic endoscopy.

Vijayi Maharajadhiraja book released

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (MK&VNS)- Despite political difference, both Mysuru and Maratha worked for safeguarding Hindu dharma, said Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Wadiyar here yesterday.

Speaking after releasing the book 'Vijayi Maharajadhiraja,' authored by writer Ka.Sri. Nagaraj at a function jointly organised by Akhila Bharatiya Sahitya Parishat and Sri Janajagarana Trust, Mysuru, at Madhava Krupa on JLB Road, he said, as there was no friendly relationship, the Maratha Kingdom had constant rifts with southern Karnataka region.

"Shivaji Maharaj was at the helm of affairs of Maratha Kingdom when Chikkadevaraja Wadiyar was heading the Mysore Kingdom. While Chikkadevaraja Wadiyar was busy with the expansion and development works, Shivaji Maharaj was also involved in similar activities. Despite political differences, both had similar leaning towards religion," he added.

Stating that there were scriptures which mentioned Shivaji stayed in Bengaluru, Yaduveer said, both Chikkadevaraja Wadiyar and Shivaji were undisputable Kings when it came to protection of Hindu religion.

Adding that it was important to remember the contributions of both the Kings, Yaduveer said in the days of modern democracy system, there was a need to think in term of following and protecting the Hindu religion and said that the book 'Vijayi Maharajadhiraja' which speaks about Shivaji Maharaj must reach everyone.

RSS Senior Pracharak Su. Ramanna, who spoke on the occasion, said the book not only has the details about Shivaji Maharaj but also has the history of those worked towards safeguarding the Maratha Kingdom after the passing away of Shivaji Maharaj.

Writer Ka.Sri. Nagaraj and columnist Ranganath were present on the occasion.

NEWS BRIEFS

No Meat Sale

Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has banned sale of meat on Feb. 26 on account of Mahashivarathri. Accordingly, all meat shops and slaughter houses coming under MCC limits have been instructed to be closed on that day, according to MCC Health Officer.

Deadline extended

Backward Classes Welfare Department has extended the deadline for Post-Matric courses students from Backward communities to apply online for availing 'Fee reimbursement', to Mar. 10. Eligible students can apply online through the website: ***www.https:ssp.postmatric.karnataka.gov.in***. For details, call Mob: 80507-70005 or e-mail helpline: ***bcwdhelpline@gmail.com*** or ***postmatrichelp@karnataka.gov.in***.

Ph.D awardee

G.K. Supriya has been awarded Ph.D in Commerce by the KSOU for her thesis 'A Study on Customer Relationship Management Practices in Standalone Private Health Insurance Companies in Karnataka.' [Guide: Dr. R. Sukanya]

Measures taken for development of temples: Muzrai Minister

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (DM)- Minister for Transport and Muzrai R. Ramalinga Reddy said that measures have been taken for the development of temples.

He was speaking after inaugurating the 'Aagama Ghatikotsava-2025', a convocation organised under the joint aegis of Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments Department and Karnataka Rajya Aagama Shikshana Mattu Pareeksha Samiti at Jaganmohan Palace here recently.

Noting that the Aagama Ghatikotsava has not been held for the past 18 years, with the last one held in 2007, Ramalinga Reddy said he has directed for distribution of certificates to all the qualified students in the next three months.

Highlighting the initiatives taken by the department for the welfare of priests, the Minister said that all elderly citizens aged above 65 years are allowed queue free entry to temples. This apart, arrangements have been made for 1,200 priests to visit religious places across the country and measures have been taken for carrying out a survey of temple properties in order to clear any encroachments.

Yadugiri Yatiraj Mutt seer Narayana Jeeyar, who graced the occasion, said that the religious endowments department is like a soul for the entire state. Maintaining that Ramanujacharya renovated as many as 22,000 temples, he lauded the department for ensuring the welfare of priests. Pointing out that Mysuru is called as the cultural capital of the State, he recalled his college days when he studied at Maharaja Sanskrit college, Mysuru.

The students of Aagama Shastra, who received certificates during the Convocation Ceremony at Jaganmohan Palace in city recently, are seen with the dignitaries.

The Department Commissioner Dr. M.V. Venkatesh said that about 2,000 students are being issued certificates for students who studied Aagama courses since 2019. The department will take measures for distributing certificates to the rest 10,000 students in another 3-4 months, he added.

Former Maharaja Sanskrit college Principal and Vijayanagar's Yoganarasimhaswamy temple founder Prof. Bhashyam Swamiji in his Convocation address, said that Aagama science (Aagama Shastra) can make its own contributions to modern day science, as the scope of Aagama Shastra is far and wide. Stressing on the need for seeing Aagama Shastra from a scientific view point, Prof. Bhashyam Swamiji stressed on the need for translating palm leaf manuscripts to different languages. He urged the Government to establish 'Aagama Samshodhana Samsath', an exclusive body for Aagama Shastra research, for carrying study and research activities on a full scale.

"An ideal priest should be well versed in Lohashastra, Tantrashastra, Shilpashastra etc., as they are the ones who perform pujas and other rituals at temples. The job of a priest is also to make people understand the significance of performing pujas", he said adding that it is satisfactory to note that the study and practise of Aagama Shastra has continued uninterrupted in the State, for which the erstwhile Mysore Royal family is mostly responsible. He also recalled that the erstwhile Mysuru rulers established the Maharaja Sanskrit College in the city 50 years before the establishment of University of Mysore. It is delightful to note that the Karnataka Government has been running this Institution in the post-independence era, he added.

Students were distributed certificates and administered the oath. Also, several Aagama scholars were feted on the occasion.

MLA T.S. Srivatsa, DC G. Lakshmikantha Reddy, Additional DC Dr. P. Shivaraj and others were present.

Echo of Udayagiri stone-pelting incident

Muslim organisations to raise legal awareness among youth

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (MK&BCT)- In response to the recent stone-pelting incident at Udayagiri Police Station, the Federation of Mysuru Muslim Organisations has decided to raise legal awareness and knowledge about Indian law and Constitution among the youth through programmes at mosques.

During a meeting on Friday, leaders stressed the need for strict punishment for those involved in stone pelting while ensuring that innocent individuals are not wrongfully penalised. Legal efforts will be made to secure the release of those wrongfully detained, with a focus on peace and order through awareness initiatives.

With Ramzan approaching, the Federation emphasised the importance of maintaining peace and urged that youths attending prayers be educated about the country's laws to prevent impulsive reactions or inter-community tensions.

Abdul Khader Shaheed, convener of the Federation, highlighted the importance of abiding by the country's laws, noting that the Police are meant to protect all citizens and that wrongdoers should face legal consequences. The organisation also called on religious leaders to promote constitutional awareness and peace while issuing a caution against those inciting violence.

Abdul Khader Shaheed, Convener of Federation of Mysuru Muslim Organisations, addressing the meeting in city on Friday.

To safeguard the future of youths aged 18-20, the Federation has resolved to provide legal guidance in every mosque, underscoring the importance of acting within constitutional boundaries. The initiative aims to foster peace and brotherhood, preventing impulsive actions that could jeopardise their future.

Advocate Khaleem Ullah Sharif stated that there is a strong possibility of securing bail for innocent individuals arrested in the Udayagiri stone-pelting case. If bail is denied at the District Court level, an application will be filed in the High Court.

The meeting was attended by convener Hafiz Arshad Sab and members of Jamate Ulema-e-Hind, including Khari Fayaz, Majlis Ulema, Sunni Jamaat's Moulana Abdul Mustafa, Khwaja Azeem Chishti, Moulana Noori Baba of the Ulama Union, Moulana Sayyed Fazlullah; Yunus of Tanzeem-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat Jamaat, Jameer Ahmed Ashrafi, Farooq Nashtar of Jamaat-e-Islami Hind and others.

Hindu outfits to rally against Udayagiri incident on Feb. 24

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (BLU&BCT)- Condemning the recent stone-pelting incident at Udayagiri Police Station in Mysuru, Hindu organisations have announced a 'Mysuru Chalo' protest on Feb. 24, according to Krishnaraja MLA T.S. Srivatsa.

The protest, organised by the Rashtra Suraksha Andolana Samithi, is expected to draw thousands of participants.

The march will start from Gun House Circle and proceed to Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple, where a stage programme will be held. The protest aims to send a strong message to those who took the law into their own hands by attacking the Udayagiri Police Station and issuing threats, said Srivatsa.

The demonstration is not only intended to showcase the unity and strength of the Hindu community but also to express solidarity with the Police force in maintaining law and order.

It aims to ensure that the Police can carry out their duties without any undue influence.

Additionally, the protest serves as a warning to the Government to allow the Police to operate effectively.

Srivatsa also mentioned that detailed plans for 'Mysuru Chalo,' including the participation of State and national leaders and the event schedule, are currently being finalised.

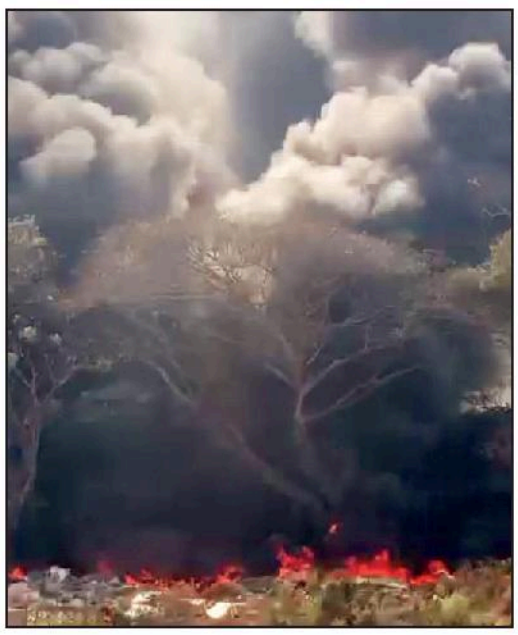
Permission denied

Meanwhile, the Krishnaraja Police have denied permission to the Dalita Mahasabha to hold a rally accusing the BJP and RSS of being responsible for the stone-pelting incident at Udayagiri. The Mahasabha had planned to organise an awareness rally on Feb. 24 at 11 am, from Gun House Circle to Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple.

In a notice to Mahasabha President S. Rajesh, Krishnaraja Police Inspector stated that the permission was denied based on intelligence reports indicating that the rally could disrupt public peace, incite communal tensions, and pose a law and order risk.

Rajesh confirmed to *Star of Mysore* that both Krishnaraja and Devaraja Inspectors have asked him to call off the rally because of adverse intelligence reports.

Garbage dump set on fire at Dasara Expo premises



Mysuru, Feb. 23 (MTY&KS)- Thick smoke emanating from the garbage heap, which was set on fire at Dasara Exhibition premises, created tension on Mysuru-Nanjangud Road, with motorists especially two-wheeler riders finding it difficult to navigate on the smoke-filled Road yesterday.

It is learnt that thermocol, plastics and other items that were used for decoration purpose in the recently held wedding of a Kannada actor and from the expo stalls, were dumped inside the compound of Dasara Exhibition Grounds close to M.G. Road and Mysuru-Nanjangud Road Junction.

At about 3 pm, fire was set to the garbage heap resulting thick black smoke emanating from it. As the fire increased, thick black smoke engulfed M.G. Road and Mysuru-Nanjangud Road forcing motorists to stop their vehicles on the roadside due to poor visibility.

Soon, Fire and Emergency Services personnel, who rushed to the spot, succeeded in dousing the fire, thus preventing it from spreading further.

It may be recalled that miscreants had set fire to Chamundi Hill on Friday resulting in vast forest land getting destroyed in the fire.

Setting fire to Chamundi Hill: Karnataka Senapade demands arrest of culprits

Demanding the arrest of those who have set fire to Chamundi Hill and stringent action against them, Karnataka Senapade activists staged a protest near the old DC's Office in city yesterday.

The protesters, who demanded the arrest of the miscreants, also urged for planting of saplings at the forest area of the hill which has been destroyed in the fire besides urging for adequate bandobust at the hill and Police patrolling daily.

Tejesh Lokesh Gowda, Krishnappa, Prabhushankar, Prajesh, Shivalingaiah, Neha, Varakodu Krishnegowda and others took part in the protest.

Curbing human-wildlife conflict

'Gandhada Gudi' model elephant sanctuary in Kodagu on cards

File photo

Madikeri, Feb. 23 (PS&BCT)- The longstanding human-elephant conflict in Kodagu has intensified over the decades, with elephant attacks claiming 33 lives in recent years.

Additionally, 53 people are grappling with various issues, including permanent disabilities. Despite continuous efforts by the Forest Department, the menace of wild elephants continues to escalate.

In response, the State Government is gearing up to establish an elephant sanctuary in Kodagu, drawing inspiration from the movie 'Gandhada Gudi.' The initiative aims to protect elephants while reducing inconvenience to the local population.

The intention is to strike a balance between wildlife conservation and the safety of local communities for a peaceful coexistence.

To facilitate this, 2,000 hectares of land have been identified in Kodagu, as part of a broader plan covering 12,000 hectares across the State. This land will be used to relocate elephants residing in human settlements back into the forest.

The plan also involves identifying elephants responsible for crop damage and human casualties and relocating them to the sanctuary. The Government intends to provide shelter for around 200 elephants that have settled in rural areas of the district.

During a State Wildlife Board meeting in January, attended by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre, Forest Department officials and Virajpet MLA A.S. Ponnanna, the relocation of rogue elephants was discussed.

The Government agreed to identify safe areas for this purpose and preparations are now underway. The sanctuary will be equipped with technology to monitor and control the elephants, preventing them from straying back into villages.

Since 2014, the Government has allocated Rs. 21 crore for repairing fences and railway barricades in the Virajpet forest range, covering Ponnampet and Virajpet taluks. This measure is part of a long-term solution to the human-elephant conflict.

Additionally, Rs. 4.72 crore have been swiftly disbursed as compensation to those affected by wild animals and Rs. 22 crore have been allocated for new railway barricades, with installation set to begin soon.

MLA performs *guddali puja* for development works

MLA Tanveer Sait performing 'guddali puja' for various development works taken up at NR Constituency in city yesterday.

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (SBD&VNS)- MLA Tanveer Sait performed *guddali puja* for development works worth Rs. 8 crore at NR Constituency here yesterday.

Development works include construction of a new building and renovation of old building at Government Industrial Training Institute premises at Rs. 4 crore, development of storm water drain at Hanumanthanagar at Rs. 1 crore and development of roads near St. Philomena's Church among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Sait said, the height of the retaining wall of the storm water drain in Hanumanthanagar would be increased to avoid overflow of drain water onto the roads during the rainy season apart from installing the grills for the safety.

"Mysuru attracts tourists round the year and many of them visit the famous St. Philomena's Church. Hence, works of developing roads near the Church has been launched at Rs. 1 crore," he added.

Azeez Sait Block Congress President Syed Iqbal, Vice-President Shehanshah, former City Youth Congress President Shoukath Ali and others were present.

New Directors elected for Kodagu Sahakara Sangha

Mysuru, Feb. 23- The new Directors of Kodagu Sahakara Sangha, Jayalakshmipuram, were elected yesterday.

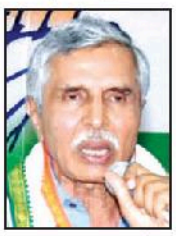
Among the total of 13 directors, two were reserved for women for which Nanjamma and Nirmala were elected unopposed.

For the remaining 11 posts, a total of 14 candidates had contested. Among them, K.G. Sudhir and A.A. Pemmaiah secured 88 votes each. Finally, K.G. Sudhir was elected through draw of lottery.

Others who were elected are M.K. Prakash (127 votes), Lovely Appaiah (119 votes), P.U. Girish (118 votes), M.G. Devaiah (108 votes), Byretira K. Ganapathy (108 votes), K.P. Pemmaiah (105 votes), P.K. Biddappa (96 votes), K.K. Bollamma (95 votes), K. Kavya Kuttappa (95 votes) and M.P. Belliappa (94 votes).

Land bought by CM Siddaramaiah does not belong to MUDA: C. Basavegowda

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (GA&VNS)- The land purchased by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at Hinkal is not connected to the disputed property mentioned in BJP leader N.R. Ramesh's complaint to Lokayukta, clarified former MUDA Chairman C. Basavegowda yesterday.



C. Basavegowda

Addressing the media at Pathrakartara Bhavan, Basavegowda stated that Siddaramaiah bought the land from one Sakamma of Hinkal in 1997 and it was sold only after the building on the site was demolished.

He explained that during his tenure as MUDA Chairman, a survey was conducted following a Court case claiming that MUDA had allotted land at the same location.

The survey revealed that the disputed land did not belong to MUDA but was adjacent to a MUDA-developed layout. The complainant was informed that an alternative site would be provided if a plot had been mistakenly allotted on the adjacent land.

"We are unsure why N.R. Ramesh filed a complaint with the Lokayukta, as the Court has already confirmed that the land does not belong to MUDA," Basavegowda added.

Governor returns Mysuru Dev. Authority Bill

(Continued from page 1)

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot further noted that the amendment to the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961, should be considered alongside the Mysuru Development Authority (MDA) Bill for greater clarity.

Heritage Protection Committee

Meanwhile, the proposed Bill includes the formation of a Heritage Protection Committee under the new MDA to preserve Mysuru's heritage significance. Additionally, Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority Act, 2024, was formulated in March to develop the Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hill.

However, the Governor questioned whether the newly proposed Bill already covers this area, as it falls within Mysuru city's jurisdiction.

The Bill seeks to separate MUDA from the Urban Development Department, which has controlled it under the Karnataka Urban Development Authorities Act of 1987.

Approved at the Cabinet meeting on Dec. 13, the Bill positions the MDA as the central agency for regional development. It proposes minimal representation from lawmakers on the new MDA Board, which will primarily consist of senior officers. Currently, all Mysuru MLAs and MLCs are members of the MUDA Board, but the Bill limits legislative representation to just two State legislators.

Karnataka Assembly Budget session to begin from March 3

Bengaluru, Feb. 23- The Budget session will begin on Mar. 3 and the Opposition BJP is ready to take on the State Government for which it held a preliminary meeting in this regard on Friday.

Speaking to media persons after the meeting, Leader of Opposition Karnataka Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy said that important topics pertaining to the budget sessions such as questions to be asked, topics for discussions etc. were discussed. He further said that corruption in the State Government and anti-people policies will be disclosed and the Opposition party will take on the State Government, Chalavadi Narayanaswamy said and added that the discussions were held in this regard at the meeting.

Chalavadi Narayanaswamy

Police launch system to rectify wrong penalties

(Continued from page 1)

Those wrongfully penalised can contact the ADGP Office via email at *adgpcts@bgl.vsnl.net.in* or visit the jurisdictional City Commissionerate or the offices of the Superintendent of Police.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Sharath Chandra acknowledged that verifying all traffic violations on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Highway is challenging due to manpower shortages.

The Highway is equipped with over 60 AI-based Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras. However, faulty AI systems are a major concern as they can misinterpret images, leading to incorrect penalties for seatbelt or overspeeding violations and even wrongly identifying vehicles.

Some drivers reported receiving speeding fines despite adhering to speed limits, attributing the issue to camera malfunctions or miscalculations. Concerns have been raised about the accuracy of the system, particularly in scenarios where lighting conditions or clothing colours impact detection.

Additionally, complaints have emerged from vehicle owners who received overspeeding notices for locations like Channapatna or Ramanagara, despite their cars being parked at home at the time.

Cameras functioning effectively

ADGP Sharath Chandra maintains that all cameras on the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway are functioning effectively. "We have been monitoring the cameras for the past year and found them to be working successfully. Although we've received reports of glitches — like incorrect vehicle penalties or wrong number plate captures — such cases

Sharath Chandra

are minimal compared to the vast number of vehicles on the Highway. These are negligible. Any automated system can experience glitches and errors can also occur with manual intervention. Due to manpower shortages, verifying every violation is impractical," he said.

Vehicle owners or drivers who receive incorrect penalty notices can report the issue for verification and correction. "If a vehicle is parked at home but receives a violation notice, owner can contact us directly. They can email the ADGP's office at adgpcts@bgl.vsnl.net.in or mail jurisdictional SP or Commissioner. All SPs and Commissioners have been instructed to verify complaints and take corrective action. If a genuine case of wrongful penalty is identified, we will waive the penalty. The complainant will get a response within seven days," the ADGP stated.

Sharath Chandra also noted that the Department is monitoring social media for complaints on wrongful fines. "We have voluntarily checked social media posts where public reported wrong fines. We have reached out to such individuals, verified the complaints and waived off incorrect penalties. We have removed such cases from our database, sparing the public from paying fines for offences they did not commit," the ADGP added.

Camera issues persist without clear cause

(Continued from page 1)

The company maintains that it is not responsible for the 36 cameras installed by the Police and other private agencies.

"All our 24 cameras are accurate and this can be verified by anyone. In every penalty notice, the camera location or the site of the violation is mentioned. We are 100 percent confident that the penalty notices generated by our ANPR cameras are accurate, leaving no room for errors," said Akash Sinha.

Weather conditions sometimes contribute to errors in cameras. From 5 am to 9 am, mist and fog can obscure the cameras' view, preventing clear captures of violating vehicles. Similarly, intense sunlight can reflect off number plates, reducing visibility and leading to incorrect readings.

"Despite these challenges, our back-end team manually verifies each violation before generating penalty notices. If any complaints are received about wrongful penalties, we will make amends and reimburse any loss incurred by the vehicle owner," Akash said.

Spurt in atrocities against women: Pramod Muthalik blames State Govt.

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (GA&BS)- Sri Ram Sene leader Pramod Muthalik has accused the State Government for the rise in atrocities against women in Karnataka.

He was addressing the gathering after releasing the book 'Love Jihad' at Pathrakarthara Bhavana, in the city yesterday.

"It is not just in the State, women across the country won't feel safe. It is the Government and the Police, who have to be blamed for the rise in atrocities against women. It took about 12 long years for the verdict to be heard in the New Delhi Nirbhaya gang rape case and the delay in delivery of justice weakens action in controlling the atrocities. Hence, the Courts should come to the rescue of survivors," demanded Muthalik.

Activists Bhramarambha, Maheshwari, Sundaresh and Venkatnarayan Rao were present.

At the sidelines of the book release, Muthalik alleged that miscreants belonging to a particular faith resort to violence, as they are confident that the Congress Government would anyhow withdraw the cases booked against them.

Muthalik said, the Police out of fear, refrain from initiating any action against them and neither those belonging to a particular community, are afraid of the Police, for the unwavering support they enjoy from the State Congress Government.

"The Police instead of recommending externment of a religious head who had provoked the mob to stone pelting on Udayagiri Police Station, have initiated procedures to extern Satish (the accused who was arrested and released on bail, for posting a derogatory image on social media, that triggered violence in Udayagiri), who hasn't committed any wrong," alleged Muthalik.

Defamatory social media post case

Accused served notice again to appear for inquiry

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (BLU&BS)- DCP (Law and Order) M. Muthuraju, has served a notice again to Satish, the accused in Udayagiri defamatory post case, to appear for inquiry on Feb. 27.

Udayagiri Police have initiated procedures for externment of Satish, who had posted a derogatory message on his social media status, triggering a tense situation, with a mob assembled in front of the Udayagiri Police station. The mob hurled stones at the Police station, leaving about seven Policemen injured in the melee.

The Police had issued a notice summoning Satish for inquiry recently, during which the latter had sought some more time to clarify about his role in the case. Besides, he had filed objection to the externment procedures, invoked against him.

Advocate Bhaskar who spoke on behalf of his client Satish said, he (Satish) had appeared before the DCP following the notice issued to him.

"We have questioned the rationale behind serving the notice, along with filing the objection. There are certain procedures to be followed for invoking externment, that raises certain queries like; Does my client have any criminal antecedents? Was my client subjected to preliminary inquiry? The evidences in your possession related to the case?", said Bhaskar.

After receiving the written reply from the Police to queries raised, the District Court will be petitioned against externment procedures, added advocate Bhaskar.

Children's wing at City Central Library makes learning joyful

Parents can visit the library at People's Park in Nazarbad to teach kids with the help of books

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (MK&BS)- The City Central Library at People's Park in Nazarbad has become a perfect pastime spot for kids, offering not just food for thought but also a delightful learning experience.

The Children's Wing at the library is equipped with attractive facilities designed to engage young visitors and make learning enjoyable. It also provides an ideal environment for avid young readers to quench their thirst for knowledge.

The wing caters to children in pre-KG, LKG, and UKG grades, offering educational resources on math tables and moral stories.

Upon entering the library, the vibrant Children's Wing immediately captures attention with its colourful interiors featuring child-friendly chairs, tables, mats, and a wide array of storybooks. Educational materials on numbers, days of the week, months, animals, birds, flowers, and fruits are also available, making it a comprehensive learning space.

From 8.30 am to 8.00 pm

Parents can bring their children to the exclusive wing from 8.30 am to 8.00 pm, except on Mondays, the second Tuesday, the fourth Saturday, and general holidays. The facility not only focuses on children's learning but also supports parents in teaching their kids, creating a well-rounded experience.

The Children's Wing is staffed with a female teacher and a helper who ensure a conducive learning atmosphere while also attending to the children's well-being.

Deputy Director of Libraries Department B. Manjunath said that parents are encouraged to bring their children to the library, which is equipped with a wealth of learning materials to fulfil the purpose of the Children's Wing.

The library sees a greater number of homemakers and children on weekends, with about 10 to 15 children visiting during that time.

Parking space misused!

The parking area adjacent to the road in front of the City Central Library at People's Park, which leads to the Government Guest House, is being encroached upon by private goods vehicle operators.

A nearby LPG agency is reportedly misusing the space by parking its lorries and goods autorickshaws, depriving library visitors of designated parking spots. The loading and unloading of goods in the area further aggravate the issue. Regular library visitors are urging the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and the Traffic Police to address the matter promptly.

It was wrong to stone, attack Udayagiri Police Station: Advocate Abdul Razak

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (SPN&BS)- Muslim leader and advocate Abdul Razak has said, anybody who was involved in stone pelting and assault of the Police at Udayagiri Police Station in the city is wrong and will issue a public apology in this regard.

He was speaking to media persons on his arrival in the city yesterday from Bengaluru, to argue on behalf of the suspects arrested by the Police in the stone pelting case, at the District Court premises.

Abdul Razak

Razak said, the First Information Report (FIR) has been filed against over 1,000 people in Udayagiri case, including innocents and minors. He was here to provide legal aid to the innocents and shall be holding a peace meeting of all community leaders of Udayagiri, to check recurrence of such incidents in the coming days.

Youth Congress files complaint against Prathap Simha

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (BLU&BS)- Mysuru City (District) Youth Congress Committee has lodged a complaint against former Mysuru-Kodagu MP Prathap Simha, at Udayagiri Police Station in the city, for making derogatory comments against the Muslim community. The Police have filed a First Information Report (FIR) in this regard.

Prathap Simha

This follows a recent comment made by Simha against the Muslims, saying that they aren't the citizens of this country, but have been increasing their population.

In the complaint, the Youth Congress leaders have alleged that, Simha with this statement has been instigating a wedge between Hindu and Muslim communities that may lead to communal clash. Action should be taken against Simha, for abusing Muslims and disrupting peace in the society.

Obituary

Nagarajegowda

Mysuru, Feb. 23- Nagarajegowda (70), retired employee of Vikrant Tyres and a resident of Vijayanagar 4th Stage, passed away on Friday in city.

He leaves behind his wife Manjula, daughter Deepa, son-in-law Prasanna Kumar, grand-daughter Priyadarshini and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Mukthidhama in Vijayanagar 4th Stage on the same day evening, according to family sources.

Karnataka to witness significant sustainability transformation

Chairman of Bioenergy Development Board S.E. Sudheendra at NIE's International Conclave on Sustainable Technologies

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (BCT)- The National Institute of Engineering (NIE) Mysuru, in collaboration with Fachhochschule Dortmund — University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Germany and The Institution of Engineers (India) (IEI), jointly organised a two-day International Conclave on Sustainable Technologies (ICST).

The conference was inaugurated on Feb. 19 by S.E. Sudheendra, Chairman of the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board (KSBDB), who highlighted Karnataka's pioneering role in bioenergy.

In his address, Sudheendra noted that Karnataka was the first State in the country to design, develop and implement the Karnataka Biofuel Policy - 2009. He further emphasised that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has placed strong importance on sustainability across various sectors, including manufacturing, social services and economic development. He stated that sustainable development fosters social harmony and peace and the bioenergy sector in Karnataka is set to witness significant transformation in the coming months.

The Board has initiated multiple projects to create a conducive environment for the growth of biofuels, particularly in areas such as bio-briquettes, pellets, biodiesel, second-generation (2G) ethanol, compressed biogas and green hydrogen. He revealed that the sector envisions an investment of over 1 trillion dollars.

As part of Invest Karnataka — Global Investors Summit 2025, the Board showcased its achievements and plans, with efforts underway to attract investors for large-scale commercialisation of biofuel initiatives.

Sudheendra also spoke about his interactions with policymakers, subject experts and industry leaders from various countries, aimed at expanding the biofuel value chain in Karnataka.

A high-level meeting is scheduled this week under the leadership of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister and the IT & BT Minister, where experts and stakeholders will provide strategic inputs to accelerate biofuel development.

Sudheendra interacted with students and appreciated their exhibits on 17 sustainability factors. He also inaugurated a biofuel stall, showcasing various bioenergy products and programmes.

The event saw the participation of international delegates from Germany, media representatives including KSBDB Managing Director L. Shiv Shankar, DCF B.R. Lohith, project consultant Dr. G.N. Dayananda, Vice-Rector, FHD, Germany Prof. Stephen Weyers, Director of Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialisation, Waradha Dr. Ashutosh A. Murkute, Speaker, Author, Sustainability Researcher, TH-OWL, Lemgo, Germany, Dr. Christoph Harrach, Hon. Secretary, IE India Mysuru Dr. S.A. Mohan Krishan, Hon. President NIE Mysuru Dr. M.S. Ranganath, Conveners, ICST 2005 Prof. Shamsundar Subbarao and Prof. K.R. Prakash, Co-Chair Prof. Imran Jamdar and NIE Principal Prof. Rohini Nagapadma.

'India mentors foreign countries in sericulture'

Valedictory of Indian Technical and Economic Co-Operation (ITEC) training on 'Sericulture and Silk Industry' held at CSRTI, Mysuru

Mysuru, Feb. 23 (MK&BS)- Viraj Singh, Additional Secretary, Union Ministry of External Affairs, observed that, the country has achieved progress in the field of sericulture, following the exchange of knowledge with foreign countries and has occupied a key position in the International Sericulture Commission, constituting 23 countries.

He was addressing the valedictory of three-week training on "Sericulture and Silk Industry", attended by 21 foreign candidates, at Central Sericulture Research and Training Institute (CSRTI), Mysuru, under Indian Technical and Economic Co-Operation (ITEC), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

Singh said that, India has been guiding other countries in sericulture. The country is rich in resources and talent, that makes it an apt place for investment and taste success in the realm. The Central Government, is also extending its full cooperation in this regard and the Ministry of External Affairs, has been chalking out many programmes.

The 21 candidates from 7 countries, who underwent training, should make judicious use of the same, upon returning to their countries. Any confusions in the area of sericulture can be solved by seeking the advice of institutions by communicating and maintaining a rapport with them.

P. Shivakumar, Member Secretary, Central Silk Board, Bengaluru, said the second hi-tech training conducted in a short span of time has been a success. "Apart from other regular training sessions, the CSB is offering Diploma Courses. This hi-tech training programme provides a innovative experience and comes in handy in learning the nuances of sericulture cultivation of other countries," he added.

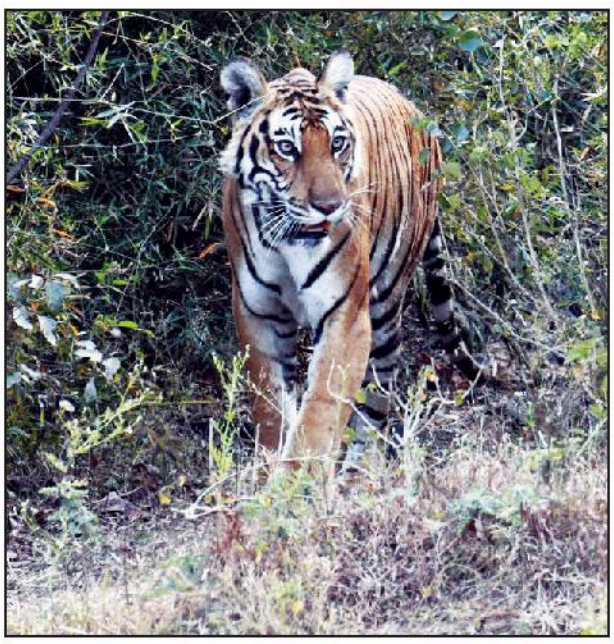
"India is a Member of International Sericulture Commission and the trainees should start practicing sericulture on their own. The Commission was ever ready, to provide required guidance," said Shivakumar.

Dr. S. Gandhi Doss, Director, CSRTI Mysuru presented the welcome address. Dr. R. Meenal, Senior Scientist and ITEC Co-ordinator, presented the certificates to successful trainees, followed by a brief note on ITEC was presented by Padmanav Nayak., Asst. Secretary, International Sericulture Commission, Bangalore. The trainees shared their feedback about the training programme. Dr. Adela Ramona Moise, from Romania, expressed that, hands on training was very useful and we have gained much knowledge about Sericulture. We shall implement it in our country, she assured. Dr. Revappa, Scientist-B, Training Division, CSRTI, rendered vote of thanks. The scientists, officers and officials of CSRTI were present.

WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE
TOMORROW'S MATCH
FEB. 24
RCB Vs UP WARRIORZ
RCB Vs UP Warriorz
M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru - 7.30 pm
YESTERDAY'S RESULT
UP Warriorz 177/9 (20 overs) BEAT
DC 144 all out (19.3 overs)
Live action on:
Star Sports Network & JioHotstar

CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2025 · PAKISTAN
TODAY'S MATCH
FEB. 23
India Vs Pakistan
Dubai International Stadium, Dubai - 2.30 pm
TOMORROW'S MATCH
FEB. 24
New Zealand Vs Bangladesh
Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi - 2.30 pm
YESTERDAY'S RESULT
England 351/8 (50 overs) LOST to Australia 356/5 (47.3 overs)
Live action on:
Star Sports Network & JioHotstar

Abundant wildlife sightings at Nagarahole beckon tourists



Mysuru, Feb. 23 (SBD&KS)- Tourists and wildlife photographers going on a safari at Nagarahole Tiger Reserve Forest are a happy lot following abundant sightings of wild animals including elephants and tigers.

Tourists, who went on a safari from Kakanakote Safari Centre in H.D. Kote taluk limits recently, enjoyed the sighting of a tiger, elephants, herd of deer and other wild animals and birds in separate spots and clicked photographs on their cameras and mobile phones.

There are eight ranges in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve Forest and there is a safari centre at Antharasanthe Range where there is more density of elephants and tigers. From here, there is an opportunity to go on a safari to Kabini backwaters where tigers were spotted in recent days.

The Reserve Forest is named after the stream 'Nagarahole' which literally means serpent stream (*Nagara* = Serpent, *hole* = stream) in Kannada. This Reserve Forest, a protected area, is located in both Mysuru and Kodagu districts with an area of 847.981 sq.km (core - 643.392 sq.km and buffer - 204.589 sq.km).

Eco-tourism activity is being carried out in Nagarahole Wildlife Range (Nagarahole tourism zone) and at D.B. Kuppe - Antharasanthe Wildlife Ranges (Sunkadakatte tourism zone).

Nagarahole was a part of Bandipur Tiger Reserve which was one among the nine Tiger Reserve launched under Project Tiger in 1973. In 2007, Nagarahole was declared as an independent tiger reserve.

A wild elephant and a herd of deer grazing in Kabini Backwaters which was spotted by safari goers recently.
[Pics by M.N. Lakshminarayana Yadav]

Installation of rail barricades at Omkar Forest limits

Works on the 8 km stretch at a cost of Rs. 11.60 crore to begin soon: MLA

Nanjangud, Feb. 23 (CM& TRR)- The works on the installation of rail barricades on the 8 km stretch at a cost of Rs. 11.60 crore will commence soon to prevent wild animals from entering villages in forest borders of Hediyala and Omkar Ranges, said Nanjangud MLA Darshan Dhruvanarayan.

He was speaking to media persons after inspecting the spot along with Forest officials, where the works would commence and later held discussions with farmers and heard their grievances recently.

Nanjangud MLA Darshan Dhruvanarayan, along with former MLA Kalale N. Keshavamurthy and others, inspecting Omkar Forest area.

"Several complaints were given by the farmers of forest border villages in Omkar Range about wild elephants damaging their crops. Following this, I had submitted a memorandum to Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre, urging him to solve the problems. A few months ago, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre visited Hediyala and Omkar Ranges and had assured of releasing grants to solve the problems. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has released the funds for the installation of rail barricades for the 8 km stretch which will help the farmers of Maduvinahalli, Hancheepura, Kallipura, Kothanahalli, Siddegowdanahundi, Channapatna and Kasuvinahalli besides preventing man-animal conflicts," said the MLA.

Continuing, he said that the though barricades have been installed in Hediyala Forest limits, there were complaints of wild animals sneaking between the barricades and destroying standing crops. Hence to provide a permanent solution to it, iron rods were fixed between the barricades in 1.5 km stretch and wire mesh fixed to the iron rods which has prevented the menace of wild animals.

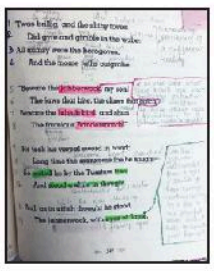
With the completion of the proposed 8 km rail barricade installation using new technology, the entire region in forest borders will be completed he said and thanked the CM Siddaramaiah and Forest Minister on behalf of the farmers.

Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Suresh, who also spoke, said that a large area of forest land has been encroached upon and the works will be taken up only after clearing the encroachments to which MLA Darshan said that conducting a joint survey by the Revenue and Forest Departments to clear encroachments would take a lot of time which would cause problems to the farmers and instructed the ACF to commence the installation of rail barricades to prevent the menace of wild animals.

Former MLA Kalale N. Keshavamurthy, Taluk Guarantees Implementation Committee President Maruthi, Taluk Panchayat former President Nagesh Raj, leaders Jaishankar, Range Forest Officers and others were present on the occasion.

WORD OF THE DAY

Jabberwocky



Pronunciation: JAB-er-wah-kee (Noun)
Meaning: Jabberwocky refers to meaningless speech or writing.
Origin: In his poem titled "Jabberwocky," from Through the Looking-Glass, Lewis Carroll warned readers about a frightful beast:
Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!
This nonsensical poem caught the public's fancy upon its publication in late 1871, and by the turn of 20th century jabberwocky was being used as a generic term for meaningless speech or writing. The word bandersnatch has also seen some use as a general noun, with meaning "a wildly grotesque or bizarre individual." It's a much rarer word than jabberwocky, though and is entered only in the Merriam-Webster Unabridged Dictionary.
Example: "The British press now converted book into their native tongue, that jabberwocky of bonkers hot takes and classist snark. Facts were wrenched out of context, complex emotions were reduced to cartoonish idiocy, innocent passages were hyped into outrages—and there were so many falsehoods." —J. R. Moehringer, The New Yorker, 15 May 2023.

THE ODD WORD

Selenophobia

Fear of the moon.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Join the colours

Meaning: Enlist in the army.
Origin: Each regiment in the British Army has a flag, called its 'colour'. This dates back to at least the 16th century. In this citation from *Certain discourses concerning the formes and effects of divers sorts of weapons, and other verie important matters militarie,* 1590, Sir John Smythe appears to be disparaging about what must then have been new practice of calling an ensign (flag) a colour: "Colours is by them so fondlie & ignorantly given, as if they should (in stead of Ensignes) be asked how manie Colours of footmen there were in the Armie." The word 'colour' in this context is now best remembered via the annual ceremony in London of 'Trooping the Colour', in which various regiments of the British Army, notably the Household Division, parade their regimental colours before the monarch.
Example: He is unable to join the colours this year due to his serious health problem.

QUOTE BOX

To the mind that is still, the whole universe surrenders. **—Lao Tzu**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

SKY SKY SKY SKY SKY

Answer: Sky line.

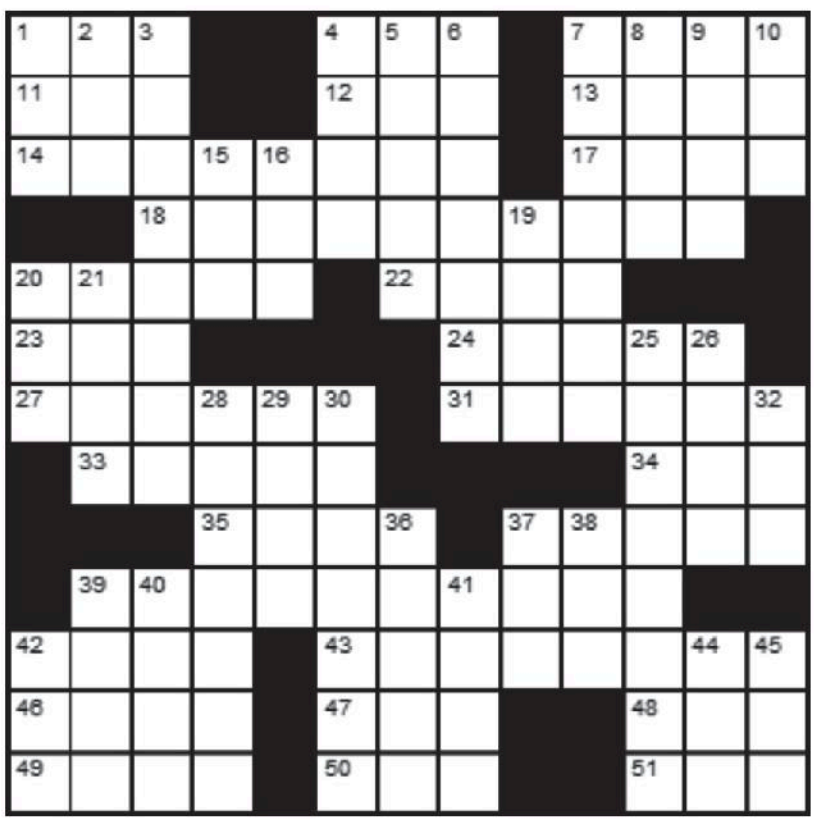
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Brother of Kush
4 Mayawati's party
7 Mother of Zeus
11 American Medical Association, acronym
12 ___ Paar: 1954 Guru Dutt movie
13 Hard to grasp
14 Jewish skullcap
17 Genesis figure
18 More than enough opportunity, in a way? (5,5)
20 Girl's name - "as gen" anagram?
22 Enterprise helmsman
23 Irish Republican Army, acronym
24 A skin disease of dogs
27 Relieve of weaponry
31 Catch - "parent" anagram?
33 Indian rice dish
34 Simile centre (2,1)
35 Helsinki chap
37 Deals successfully
39 One of the Union Territories
42 Ex-England spinner ___ Edmonds
43 Sharp bitterness
46 Petty quarrel
47 It divides the playing area in badminton or tennis
48 Billiards stick
49 Samoan Port
50 Conversational stopgaps
51 __one's heart on: want eagerly

DOWN
1 Minstrel song
2 Actress Thurman
3 Indian holy city
4 Round toy
5 Japanese alcoholic beverages - "asks E" anagram?
6 Take for granted
7 Narrate or tell; describe
8 Make into a pile
9 Nobelist Wiesel
10 Ms Rand who wrote "The Fountainhead"
15 Mrs in Marseille
16 Counterparts of "downs"
19 A Scottish tribe
20 Give help or assistance
21 Have a firm __ on : be in control of?
25 Drawings and illustrations
26 Comfort
28 Lucerne
29 Purple ____ by Prince
30 Ordinary
32 ___ de deux: dance for two persons?
36 More agreeable
37 Automobile
38 A globe or sphere
39 Very small piece of wood
40 High-fidelity sound reproduction (2-2)
41 ___ on : advances or makes progress?
42 Sch. affiliate
44 Calendar abbr.
45 So far

FRIDAY'S ANSWER

W	H	Y		J	U	G		E	L	E		
A	E	E	C		O	L	E		N	E	V	A
D	R	A	U	G	H	T	S		O	V	E	R
			R	U	N			G	U	I	L	T
S	P	L	I	T		F	R	O	G			
T	R	I	O			L	A	T	H	E	R	
P	E	N			I	O	N			T	O	M
	Y	E	A	R	L	Y			K	N	O	B
			P	L	O	D			F	L	A	K	E
A	L	I	A	S			V	I	A			
T	A	L	C		D	I	S	B	U	R	S	E
A	N	K	H		I	P	O		S	O	R	T
	E	S	E		A	S	P			B	O	O



SUDOKU

			1	6	9		3	
	5				7	2		9
5		4						6
		6		5		1		
3						7		4
8		3	6				2	
	7		3	8	2			

Answer to previous puzzle

2	8	6	5	7	3	4	1	9
9	7	1	6	8	4	2	3	5
3	5	4	2	1	9	6	7	8
5	2	7	3	6	8	1	9	4
4	1	8	9	5	2	7	6	3
6	9	3	1	4	7	5	8	2
7	4	2	8	3	1	9	5	6
8	6	9	7	2	5	3	4	1
1	3	5	4	9	6	8	2	7

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

OWE UNR KHRAUVZ UNRER ERFQVPK WPBY WPR

ZWPKWBQUVWP: VO UNRER KNWTBS IR KTZN Q

UNVPG QK KTARENTFQP BQJ VU VK QSFVPVKURERS

JVUN KTINTFQP VPROOVZVRPZY.

TODAY'S CLUE: N EQUALS H

Friday's Cryptoquip: Technology... the knack of so arranging the world that we don't have to experience it.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Chhaava (H) - 5 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Nanagu Love Aagidhe (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Dragon (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — **Ph: 2452958**
  Max (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Thandel (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Daaku Maharaaj (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Nilavuku Enmel Ennadi Kobam (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Vishnu Priya (K) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Badass Ravikumar (H) - 3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Chhaava (H)	(S-1)	10.05 am, 4.25 pm
	(S-3)	7 pm
	(S-4)	1 pm, 7 pm, 10.15 pm
Dragon (Ta)	(S-1)	1.15 pm
Bhaava Theera Yaana (K)	(S-1)	7.35 pm
Officer On Duty (Ma)	(S-1)	10.25 pm
Mere Husband Ki Biwi (H)	(S-2)	10.10 am, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane (K)	(S-2)	1.15 pm
Vidaamuyarchi (Ta)	(S-2)	4 pm
Nodidavaru Enanthare (K)	(S-3)	10.20 am
Vishnu Priya (K)	(S-3)	1.10 pm
Nilavuku En Mel Ennadi Kobam (Ta)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Get-Set Baby (Ma)	(S-3)	10.10 pm
Nimagondu Sihi Suddhi (K)	(S-4)	10.15 am
Eddelu Manjunatha - 2 (K)	(S-4)	4.15 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Nangu Love Agidhe (K)	(S-1)	11.05 am
Forest (K)	(S-1)	1.30 pm
Vishnu Priya (K)	(S-1)	4.15 pm, 6.45 pm
Nodidavaru Enanthare (K)	(S-1)	9.15 pm
Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane (K)	(S-2)	10.55 am
Chhaava (H)	(S-2)	1.20 pm, 4.25 pm, 7.30 pm
	(S-3)	10.50 am, 9.15 pm
Navami (K)	(S-4)	11.05 am
Olavina Payana (K)	(S-4)	1.40 pm
Nimagondu Sihi Suddi (K)	(S-4)	4.10 pm
Nilavuku Enmel Ennadi Kobam (Ta)	(S-4)	6.45 pm, 9.15 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Chhaava (H)	:	9.10 am, 10 am, 12.30 pm, 3.50 pm 7.10 pm, 10.30 pm
Nilavuku Enmel Ennadi Kobam (Ta)	:	9.45 am, 1.10 pm, 7.10 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	10 am, 4 pm, 10 pm
Mere Husband Ki Biwi (H)	:	10 am, 1 pm, 6.40 pm, 9.40 pm
Nimagondu Sihi Suddi (K)	:	11 am
Bromance (Ma)	:	12.30 pm
Shanubhogara Magalu (K)	:	1.15 pm
Sanam Teri Kasam (H)	:	3.25 pm
Vishnu Priya (K)	:	3.55 pm, 9.30 pm
Captain America (E-3D)	:	4 pm
Nanagu Love Aagidhe (K)	:	4.30 pm
Get-Set Baby (Ma)	:	6.35 pm
Bhaava Theera Yaana (K)	:	6.40 pm
Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane (K)	:	7.10 pm
Officer On Duty (Ma)	:	9.30 pm
The Wild Robot (E-2D)	:	9.55 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Chhaava (H)	:	8.40 am, 9.05 am, 12 noon, 12.30 pm 3.20 pm, 6.40 pm, 9.50 pm 10 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	10 am, 1.10 pm, 7.20 pm
Mere Husband Ki Biwi (H)	:	10.10 am, 4.20 pm, 10.30 pm
Vishnu Priya (K)	:	1.10 pm, 6.45 pm
Forest (K)	:	3.50 pm
Nilavuku Enmel Ennadi Kobam (Ta)	:	3.55 pm, 9.30 pm
Eddelu Manjunatha 2 (K)	:	7.05 pm

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Chhaava (H)	:	9.10 am, 12 noon, 12.30 pm, 3.20 pm 3.50 pm, 6.40 pm, 7.10 pm 10 pm, 10.30 pm
Nilavuku Enmel Ennadi Kobam (Ta)	:	10.10 am, 7.20 pm
Vishnu Priya (K)	:	11 am, 4.50 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	1 pm, 10.10 pm
Mere Husband Ki Biwi (H)	:	1.50 pm, 10.20 pm
Sanam Teri Kasam (H)	:	4.10 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Chhaava (H)	:	9 am, 10 am, 12.20 pm, 3.40 pm 4.10 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm, 10.20 pm
Mere Husband Ki Biwi (H)	:	10 am, 4.10 pm
Bhaava Theera Yaana (K)	:	11.30 am
Dragon (Ta)	:	1.00 pm
Vishnu Priya (K)	:	1.20 pm, 7.30 pm
Nimagondu Sihi Suddi (K)	:	2.20 pm
Shanubhogara Magalu (K)	:	5.10 pm
Get-Set Baby (Ma)	:	7.10 pm
Yello Jogappa Ninnaramane (K)	:	7.50 pm
Nilavuku Enmel Ennadi Kobam (Ta)	:	10.20 pm
Officer On Duty (Ma)	:	10.30 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

EVENTS TODAY (FEB. 23)

- **Mysore Science Foundation, Mysuru:** National Science Day celebration, painting expo (portraits of scientists) by U.G. Mohankumar Aradhya, Suchitra Art Gallery, Kalamandira premises, **up to 7.30 pm.**
- **Abhivruddhi:** Silk India, Hotel Southern Star, Vinoba Road, **up to 8.30 pm.**
- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat:** Gandhi Shilp Bazaar, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Ring Road, Hebbal Industrial Area, **up to 9 pm.**
- **The Anathalaya:** Valedictory of Sahitya Sangha 2024-25 and Lokasevanirata V. Narayanarao Smaraka Nidhi, The Anathalaya President C.V. Gopinath presides, Maharani's Arts College for Women Asst. Professor Dr. Hemachandra chief guest, Annapoorna Nilaya, The Anathalaya, **4 pm.**
- **Haridasa Sangeeta Sahityotsava Samiti:** Ganasiri-Vedanta Lahari-12 programme, 'Rukminisha Vijaya Saptaha,' written by Sri Vadiraja Gurusarvabhowma, vocal concerts by Vidwan Raichur Sheshagiridas of Bengaluru, **5 pm;** Discourse on 'Rukminisha Vijaya' by renowned scholar and Dewan of Sri Vysaraja Mutt Sri Bramhanyacharya, Sarada Vilas Centenary Hall, Krishnamurthypuram, **6 pm to 8.30 pm.**
- **District Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru and Mysuru-Chamarajanagar Jilla Arya Edigara Sangha:** Ramachandra Gupta Endowment and Munnar Krishnaiah Endowment Lecture Programme, District Kannada Sahitya Parishat Mysuru President Maddikere Gopal inaugurates, Mysuru-Chamarajanagar Jilla Arya Edigara Sangha President Dr. M.K. Potharaju presides, senior theatre person Dr. Rajashekar Kadamba chief guest, poet and columnist M.S. Rudrappa and Assistant Professor and amateur writer Dr. Paramesh K. Uttanahalli will deliver lectures, Mysuru-Chamarajanagar Jilla Arya Edigara Sangha Hostel, Vijayanagar 3rd Stage, **6 pm.**
- **V.N. Prasad & Troupe:** PBS-SPB Nite, troupe comprises V.N. Prasad, Dr. M.S. Natashekar, Thyagaraj, Jayanthi Bhat, Hamsini Kumar and Ruthvik Raj; programme will be anchored by Shanti Bharadwaj, Kalamandira, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha:** Sri B.M. Subbanna Memorial Concert - Karnatak Classical Vocal by Vid. Hemmige S. Prashanth, accompanied by Vidu. Charulatha Ramanujan on violin, Vid. Bangalore V. Praveen on mridanga (sponsored by Bellur Foundation), Mysore K. Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, **6 pm.**
- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** Staging of play 'Kaane Adavaru,' directed by Saurav Poddar, Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.**
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda (SGS) Ashram, Dattanagar, Nanjangud Road, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm & 8.10 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (FEB. 24)

- **Abhivruddhi:** Silk India, Hotel Southern Star, Vinoba Road, **10.30 am to 8.30 pm.**
- **Karnataka Rajya Bhim Sene, State Committee:** Inauguration as part of Constitution Day and 'Bhim Ratna' award presentation, Sri Jnanaprakasha Swamiji of Sri Urilinga Peddi Mutt graces the occasion, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Wadiyar inaugurates, MLC K. Vivekananda presides, MLC A.H. Vishwanath main speaker, Town Hall, **11 am.**

Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0

Mysuru, Feb. 23- The District Outreach Programme under Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 will be conducted by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office, Mysuru, on Feb. 27 from 9 am onwards at United Breweries Limited, Thandya Industrial Area, Nanjangud; De Paul International Residential School, Avverahalli, Belagola, Srirangapatna, Mandya and Kaynes Electronics Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. 26 & 27, Badanguppe, Kellamballi Industrial Area, Chamarajanagar.

Stakeholders like PF Members, Pensioners, Employers etc. may attend the programme for awareness, queries and information.

For more details, contact PRO on Ph: 0821-2599200/ 222 or e-mail: *ro.mysore@epfindia.gov.in* or visit Social Media Platform *(@epfomysore)* of the Regional Office, Mysuru, according to a press release.

Free diabetes screening camp

Mysuru, Feb. 23- A free diabetes screening camp has been organised at Suyog Hospital in Ramakrishnanagar from Feb. 24 to Mar. 1 between 10 am and 6 pm. Diabetologist Dr. T.M. Abhishek will lead the camp.

Those suffering from frequent urination, having excessive thirst, feeling more hungry, fatigue, BP, dizziness, increase/ decrease in weight, etc. may benefit from the camp. Special package will be available for the tests prescribed by doctors. For registration, contact Ph: 0821-2566966 or Mob: 99863-99862.

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Formerly Chief Engineer
DRM- Southern Railway
Advisor, DMRC
Renowned Railway Engineer
Passed away on
19th February 2025
Deeply mourned by:
V. Harinarayana & Shailaja
Kamakshi & Gopal
Padmini & Ravi Prakash
Ar. V. Vishwanath & Vidya
Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren
May his soul rest in peace.

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